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Security Council

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Letter dated 20 December 2004 from the Permanent Representative of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that the Democratic Republic of the Congo has taken note of the statement of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC) in which MONUC stated its conviction that Rwandan aggressor troops had entered Congolese territory in the wake of threats made by the authorities of the Rwandese Republic.

In view of these authorities' continuing determination to defy the international community, particularly by their refusal to withdraw their troops from Congolese territory, my Government calls upon the Security Council, as stipulated in the statement by its President of 7 December 2004 (S/PRST/2004/45), to consider urgently what steps to take against the Rwandan leaders, who through their actions are jeopardizing the peace and transition process in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and are the cause of the new humanitarian crisis which is again afflicting the Congolese population of the Kivu provinces. For over six years, these people have been suffering the disastrous impact of the Rwandan occupation.

In the light of the foregoing, my Government specifically calls upon the Security Council to:

1. Impose a total embargo on arms sales to the Rwandese Republic;

2. Declare a targeted suspension of bilateral and multilateral aid to Rwanda, taking care not to penalize the Rwandan people, who are also suffering from the terrorist and belligerent policies of their leaders, but breaking the link between such aid and the continuation of this conflict. Its core is the ongoing illegal exploitation of the natural resources and other forms of wealth of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, particularly coltan, whose market price is rising substantially;

3. Freeze the assets and prohibit the movement of Rwandan dignitaries, specifically, Mr. Paul Kagame and his immediate entourage.

My Government further requests the Security Council to demand that Rwanda immediately and unconditionally withdraw its troops from Congolese territory and abide strictly by all the Security Council resolutions on the situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

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